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December 9, 2016

Randolph S. Sergent, Esquire
Commissioner/Reviewer
Maryland Health Care Commission
4160 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore MD 21215

Re: Recovery Centers of America – Earleville (Docket No. 15-07-2363)

Dear Mr. Sergent:

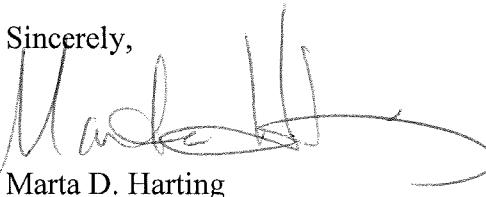
This is written to notify you that Pathways has decided not to file exceptions to your Recommended Decision in this matter.

As a longstanding community provider of inpatient and outpatient addictions services in Maryland, Pathways is keenly aware of the heroin and opioid addiction epidemic and the overall problem of substance use disorders facing the State and the Nation. Every day, Pathways sees firsthand the heavy toll the epidemic is taking on Maryland families and communities. While it welcomes additional resources that will help to bring this public health crisis to an end, Pathways notes that it continues to have concerns about the need for, and health policy ramifications of approving, a substance abuse disorder treatment project to intended to serve just the privately insured market in the midst of a public health crisis with far broader impact, including within the uninsured and Medicaid populations. Pathways also continues to be concerned that the approval of such a project will exacerbate the financial strain that Pathways, as an inpatient substance abuse disorder treatment facility that does not exclude the Medicaid population, is under as a result of the IMD exclusion as it has been applied to such facilities.

Pathways' decision not to file exceptions in this matter is without prejudice to its rights as to RCA's proposed projects in Docket Nos. 15-08-2362 and 2364 (Upper Marlboro and Waldorf), including the right to file exceptions to a recommended decision to approve either project should one be issued.

We appreciate the time and attention you have devoted to this review.

Sincerely,



Marta D. Harting